

REMARKS

The Official Action of August 21, 2008, has been carefully reviewed. The claims in the application are now claims 1-7, 9 and 10, and **these claims should be patentable consistent with what is stated in the Official Action.** Accordingly, favorable consideration and early formal allowance are respectfully urged.

Acknowledgement by the PTO of the receipt of applicant's papers filed under Section 119 is noted.

Claims 1 and 2 have been allowed, and it is therefore understood that these claims are deemed by the PTO to define novel and unobvious subject matter under Sections 102 and 103, and to meet all the other requirements for patentability including those of Section 112. Applicant is proceeding in reliance thereof.

No rejections have been imposed on the basis of prior art. Applicant accordingly understands that all of applicant's claims are deemed by the PTO to be free of any prior art, and therefore are patentable insofar as Sections 102 and 103 are concerned. Again, applicant is proceeding in reliance thereof.

Claims 4, 5 and 8 have been objected to as being in improper dependent according to U.S. practice. The examiner is correct and appropriate amendments have been made above. New claims 9 and 10 replace what was removed from claims 4 and 5. Withdrawal of the objection is in order and is respectfully requested.

Claims 3-8 have been rejected under the second paragraph of Section 112. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

As regards 3 and 6, appropriate amendments have been made above which should obviate this rejection. However, these amendments are considered by applicant to be cosmetic, involving no substantive changes in scope. No limitations have been added and none are intended.

Claim 8 has been deleted without prejudice, it being noted that everything covered by original claim 8 is fully encompassed by the claims upon which claim 8 depended.

Withdrawal of the rejection is in order and is respectfully requested.

The prior art documents of record and not relied upon by the PTO have been noted, along with the implication that such documents are deemed by the PTO to be insufficiently

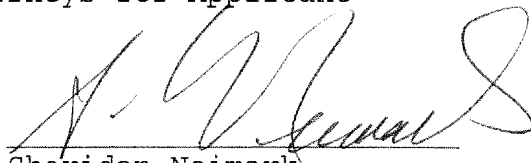
material to warrant their application against any of  
applicant's claims.

Applicant believes that all issues raised in the  
Official Action have been addressed above in a manner that  
should lead to patentability of the present application.  
Favorable consideration and early formal allowance are  
respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.  
Attorneys for Applicant

By

  
Sheridan Neimark  
Registration No. 20,520

SN:jnj  
Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197  
Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528  
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